

Positron Emission Tomography with CT

Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Computerized Tomography (CT) are both standard imaging tools that allow physicians to pinpoint the location of cancer within the body before making treatment recommendations.

What to Expect During Your Appointment



Metallic Materials

All metallic materials and certain clothing around the body should be removed as they may interfere with the procedure or clarity of the images.

CT And PET Exam Time

A CT and PET exam typically takes 30 minutes depending on the images requested. Once the CT scan is complete, the PET scan will begin.

Small Injection

An hour before your exam, you will receive an injection with a radioisotope. You will be asked to relax for 60 minutes to allow the sugar to fully circulate throughout your body.

Remaining Still

Help us ensure picture clarity by remaining still and by breathing normally while the scanner operates.

Occasional Noise

You will hear occasional noise as the scanner revolves around. Do not be alarmed as these sounds are normal.

Get Your Results

Our center will contact your physician once your images are produced. Only your physician can discuss your results with you.

Common PET/CT Applications

PET and CT technology each have some medical limitations, we perform hybrid exams, eliminating the need for separate scans. The images produced by these exams let your radiologist and physician view the way your body's structures look and behave.

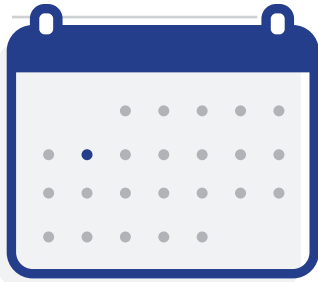
The CT images show physical landmarks to precisely locate the PET scan findings. For example, a PET scan shows cells that may be cancerous, while a CT scan shows precisely where those cells are located in your body. Doctors use PET/CT scans to make better diagnoses.



EXAMINATION PREPARATION

It is extremely important that you follow these instructions for your exam.

How to Prepare For Your Appointment



Eating And Drinking

1 Day Before Your Exam:
No exercise is permitted.

Day of your Exam: You cannot eat and can only drink water for 6 hours before your exam. If your exam is in the afternoon, you may eat breakfast 6 hours before your appointment time.

Wearing Of Accessories

You will be asked to remove all jewelry, glasses, hearing aids, hair pins, and other metallic objects. We provide you with your own locker for your belongings. You may also be asked to remove dentures and wigs.

Taking Medications

You may take oral medications in the morning with water only. If you are diabetic, please contact the center for instructions.

Clothing For The Exam

For your convenience, please dress appropriately. Consider wearing comfortable clothing that does not have any zippers, clasps, or metallic decoration. You may be asked to wear a cloth gown.

Exercise And Physical Activity

No strenuous exercise for 48 hours prior to the scan.

Bring To Your Exam

You must bring your most recent CT, MRI or other relevant films and reports on the day of the scan.

Alert Your Physician or An Akumin Staff Member

- You should alert your physician or an Akumin staff member, if you have any metallic implants.
- Women should always inform their physician and technologist if they are breastfeeding or possibly pregnant
- If you will have problems staying still for the exam as it may cause you pain.
- If you are diabetic and may be asked to alter your medication intake.

